

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/519,390  
Applicant: Yong-Hoon Chung  
Filed: July 29, 2005  
TC/A.U.: 1647  
Examiner: Cherie M. Woodward  
Docket No.: 5252MC-1  
Customer No.: **22442**

Confirmation No. 7628

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir,

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action having a mailing date of August 22, 2006. This response is filed within the one month shortened statutory period. Applicants therefore believe this response is timely filed and no fees are due. In the event any fees are due, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 between protein variants, DNA molecules encoding protein variants, recombinant expression vectors, host cells, methods of making a protein variant and pharmaceutical compositions comprising protein variants. Applicants hereby elect a protein variant in response to this restriction requirement without traverse.

Additionally, the Examiner has imposed a species election between the cytokine protein variants recited in Claims 44-62, including the corresponding SEQ ID NO. Applicants hereby elect the 4-alpha helix bundle cytokine thrombopoietin (TPO) corresponding to SEQ ID NO.: 25. The pending claims readable on the elected species include Claims 38-42 and 62.

In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecution and/or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 15, 2006